THE BOMBAY COURIER.

[PUBLISHED TWICE A-WEEK,—EVERY SATURDAY AND TUESDAY MORNING.—PRICE 13 RUPEES PER QUARTER.]

VOL. XLV.] TUESDAY, 21 MARCH, 1837. [NO. 9379.

FOR LONDON.—The "*John Denniston*" A. I. of 450 tons, *Thos. Mackie*, Commander.—For freight or passage apply to

W. S. GREY.

Rampart Row. 21ts March, 1837.

FOR LONDON.—The Ship "*Palmira*" 600 Tons, *William Loader* Commander, Expected Daily, and will have immediate despatch. Has superior accommodations for passengers, and carries a surgeon. For passage apply to *Messrs. McGregor Brownrigg and Co.*—Bombay, 21st March, 1837.

FOR LONDON DIRECT.—The fine fast sailing newly coppered Ship SEVERN, Captain *H. Wake*, of 600 tons, register; has excellent accommodation for passengers, and a surgeon attached. A great portion of her cargo being engaged, will sail early next month. For freight, or passage, apply to *Messrs D. and M. Peston-jee*, or to the commander at their office.—Bombay, 21st March, 1837.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—The EUCLES; Captain *Smith*; carries a surgeon. For passage, apply to the Captain, at *Messrs. W. Nicol and Co's.* Rampart-row, 21st March 1837.

FOR LIVERPOOL.—The "*Cestrian*, Captain KELLOCK, has very superior accommodations and will have prompt despatch, for passage apply to,

EDMOND, BIBBY AND Co.

Bombay, 20th March, 1837.

FOR MADRAS.—Touching on the Malabar Coast and Ceylon, the fast sailing BARQUE EAMONT 300 Tons burthen *N. Burtsal*, commander. Will sail on the 24th instant. For Freight or passage, apply to *Messrs. Frith and Co.*—Nesbit lane, March 21st 1837.

BILLS ON ENGLAND.—The Quarter Master of H. M, 2nd or Queens Royal Regiment, will receive sealed tenders, post paid, for Bills at thirty days sight, on *John Laurie, Esq.* Army Agent, No. 10 Charles Street, St. James's square, London, to the amount of £309 or thereabout. The tenders to be for even sums of not less than £50 each and to be delivered at Belgaum on or before the sixth day of April next,—Belgaum, March 15th, 1837.

BILLS on Sir Charles Cockerell, Bart. and Co. London, in convenient sets, at 2s|1d. 30 days' sight, may be had of

MCGREGOR BROWNRIGG, AND Co.

Bombay, 21st March, 1837.

BILLS ON LONDON, or LIVERPOOL, at 3 days, 30 days, 3 months or 6 months' sight, on sale at the office of

EDMOND BIBBY AND Co,

EAST INDIA AGENCY IN LONDON FOR PASSENGERS, *No.* 11, *Leadenhall street*. Parties arriving in England, will, on immediate application to Mr. ALEXANDER, *East India Passage Agent, No* .11, *Leadenhall street* (*next door to the India House*), secure the most prompt and speedy attention in regard to the clearing and forwarding of their baggage; engaging furnished apartments in town to prevent the expense of resorting to hotels; procuring immediate return engagements for native servants, and in all other matters consequent on a first arrival in London.

☞ Publishing office of the "East India and Colonial Magazine, No. 11, Leadenhall street.—London, 11th Sept. 1836.

NOTICE.—Thursday next being the Hindoo Festival, the usual weekly sale at *Yates and Co's* will be postponed until the following, Thursday 21st of March, 1837.

NOTICE.—Messrs. YATES AND Co., in bringing to the notice of the public, their extensive stock of stores beg further to add, that Regimental Messes, families &c. who may favor them with their commands, will be most liberally treated with, both as regards price and the warrantry of the articles. Arrangements are made to keep up a regular supply of the greatest variety and best quality possibly to be procured.

Commanders of Vessels will also find *Yates and Co's.* warehouse an available one for the supply of Ships stores, Ship Chandlery and Salt provisions.

Fresh provisions and vegetables in hermetically sealed Canisters of almost every description.—Meadows street.

YATES AND CO.—Have received a fresh and excellent batch of Brown Stout at Rupees 7 per dozen, and some fine Noyeaus and Syrups.—Meadows Street.

ON SALE at the Godowns of *Messrs. Edmond, Bibby and Co.*, Sherry Wine of superior quality in Hhds. and quarter casks, received per Carnatic, also Port Wine of superior quality, at Rs 20 ℔ Doz. Cash.—Rampart Row, 21t March, 1837.

ON SALE.—Several very handsome Piano Fortes from Collard and Collard (late Clementi and Co.,) of London, may be seen at the office of

EDMOND BIBBY AND Co.

Rampart row, 21st March 1837.

FOR SALE.—The BOMBAY CALENDAR and ALMANAC, with an INDIAN CALENDAR attached, for 1837.—It is corrected up to the latest date.—*Price—Rupees 6 per copy.*—Courier Office, 18th March

JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE AND STATISTICS.—To be published quarterly. The Agricultural and Horticultural Society of Western India, has delegated to a Committee of papers the task of selecting such matter for the press as may be found in the Transactions of the said Society. Communications from other societies or individuals, on subjects of Natural History and Statistics added to the A. and H. Society's papers will form the substance of this publication. This journal is proposed to be published by, and on account of, the Proprietors of the *Bombay Courier*, at the usual cost of this place for printed matter. The names of Subscribers will be received at this office; or by the Secretary to the society.—Courier Office, Bombay, 11th March, 1837.

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

The Right Hon'ble Sir R. Grant.
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Lieut. R. Foster, Engineers.
Henry Fawcett, Esq.
W. Hrding, Assistant Surgeon.
David A. Eisdale, Esq.

MILITARY ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

Lieut. R. H. Mackler, 44th Regt., Bengal N. I., from Mhow.
Lieut. Col. James Sheriff, 12th Regt, N. I., from Poona.
Assistant Surgeon, F. B. Hart, Bengal Service, from Mahabuleshwer.
3d Member Medical Board, G. Smyttan Esq. M. Dept.
Lieut. H. Jacob, 19th Regt., N. I.

DEPARTURES.

Lieut. H. C. Jones, 24th Regt. N. I., to Baroda.
Assist. Surgeon, W. Leggett, Artillery, to Sholapoor.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

DEATH.

Late at night on the 9th instant, at Mahul Goorary, near Asseergurh, Lieut. Alfred Morison, 3d Regt., Bombay Native Infantry.

To the many convincing proofs constantly afforded to our observation, that "in the midst of life we are in death" one more has been added, Lieut. Morison met his death by accidentally slipping his footing whilst walking on the edge of a terrace built on the banks of a tributary of the river Taptee at the above mentioned place. He fell from a height of upwards of 18 feet, striking his head, in his descent into the stream, against some stone steps which led into the water. He never rose to the surface, until taken out by his companions, and tho' every assistance was instantly afforded by a Medical Gentleman present, all was ineffectual, as the vital spark had fled. Thus in the very prime of life and health, and possessing an unusual flow of animal spirits, Lieut. Morison departed this life at the early age of 27 years.

The 3d Regt., N. I., has been awfully and suddenly deprived of a zealous and active Officer. And in private life, of one who was much loved and esteemed and who will be long lamented, and whose loss in Society cannot be soon or easily replaced. To mark still more how he was valued and beloved, the Sepoys of high caste of the 3d Regt., carried his Coffin to the grave, which was followed by the whole of the Native Officers and men of the Regt., off duty. Shewing that the kind treatment and soldierlike bearing he used in life towards them, had not been thrown away, and that neither the blind bigotry and prejudices of their religion misled, or weighed with them when the last token of their respect could be evinced; and strongly testifying how they had loved him-even in death.

SHIPPING ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES.

ARRIVALS.

March 18th.—The East India Company's Pilot Brig Taptee, Lieut. Powell, in charge, from Surat 15th instant.
Passenger.—His Excellency Sir John Keane, and Suite.

DEPARTURES.

March 19th.—Ship Helen, G. Selford, Master, to China
Passengers.—1 Portuguese, and 1 Parsee.

SHIPPING IN THE HARBOUR.

His Majesty's Ship Winchester,
E. I. Company's Receiving and Guard Vessel—Hastings, Floating Chapel—Aurora. Sloop Coote, and Brig Taptee.
FREE TRADERS.—Brittania, Brooke, John Marsh, Earl of Balcarras, Caledonia, Duncan, Adams, Eucles, William Turner, Kingston, Severn, Amelia, Cestrian, Minerva Cambridge, Barbara, Chas, Forbes, La Prevayant, Marrie, Joseph, Regulus, and John Dumster.
COUNTRY VESSELS.—Tauze, Meccaie, Cornwallis, Good Success, Kaikusroo, Futtay Rahimon, Hameedee, Lord Castlereagh, Charlotte, Fort William, Pettamber Savoy, Futtay Hulbaree, Scaleby Castle, Nassary, Caledonia, Lowjee Family, Glenelg, Futtay Salam, Shannon, Sultana, Dowlutt Persaud, Lonach, Hamoody, Edmonstone, Eamont, Kusrovie, Betsy, Hamido, and Balfour.
STEAMER.—Indus.
ARAB—Tauze, Futtay Salam, and Futta Kalimon.
AMERICAN—Elizabeth.
HIS HIGHNESS THE NIZAM'S Ship.—Mahommedee.
PORTUGUESE BARQUE.—Volunteer.
FRENCH SHIP.—Paraguay.

"Lord Hastings early loved to pronounce the Spanish proverb, '*Ningum mal a ya granda si es postera*,' and the expression of Damien, '*La journée sera dure, mais elle se passera*;' both significant of constancy in danger."

In the dark hours of gloom, and affliction, and sorrow,
Can our spirits be nerv'd to endurance of fate—
Yes, in sureness and faith of a coming to-morrow,
Man brooks every pang he is doom'd to await.

The hour may be bitter, but cannot be long,
The minutes must fleet, though on agony's wings;
Nor can fiendish invention its torments prolong,
Till satiety comes to the vengeance of kings.

Thus Damien, borne to his merciless bed,
Glanced on to the moment when torture must cease:
In the hope of that hour he stemm'd nature's cold dread—
The sun that has usher'd will set in release—

Is it theirs, the mere mortals, who reign in a right,
By none, but a servile, consider'd divine—
By the symbols of terror, to quell and affright
The spirit unseen, and its searchings confine—

Let the panders to cruelty lavish their skill.
The cross be but mild, a mere pillow the block:
To its Maker alone, bows the fixed master-will,
And unshaken encounters oppression's worst shock.

F. B. ESPL-N-DE.

THE COURIER.

TUESDAY, 21st MARCH, 1837.

We hear that the packet for the *Coote* will not be closed until to-morrow—but at what hour we have not been able to ascertain, though we have made inquiry at the Post office.

Letters were received on Sunday from the *Charles Grant* at Point de Galle, where she arrived on the 26th February, having left China on the 24th January, and Sincapore the 9th February. She brings no news from China, affairs being pretty much in the same state as when the *Isabella Robertson* left. Cotton continued to decline. The Chinese New Year, on the 7th February, was expected to settle the Opium question.

We are sorry to hear that the *Ardaseer* from this Port, grounded on Bintang Shoal on leaving Sincapore: it does not appear however that she received any serious injury, as she was to leave Sincapore again for Canton on the 15th February, after having landed and reshipped her cargo.

Letters were yesterday received from Calicut mentioning the appearance of the *John Bannerman* off that Port: we hope this intelligence may be confirmed, as she has for some time been considered a missing ship from China.

We beg to observe in reference to the remarks of a correspondent of the *Gazette*, that the Steam Petition has already received about 500 signatures, among which are most of our influential names both Native and European.—This however is no reason for other signatures not being affixed, and we are all equally interested.

We are authorized to contradict in the most unqualified terms the slanderous assertion put forth in a statement signed "W. Murphy," and published in the Bombay Gazette Newspaper of last Saturday, that the individual therein named, was placed in confinement in the Bazaar Guard House at Deesa, by order of the Commander-in-Chief. Neither His Excellency nor any of his Staff had the least share in, or knowledge of the incarceration of that individual, they having been in the Mayhee Caunta at the time it is stated to have taken place. The Major of Brigade at Deesa has been called upon to state the circumstances under which W. Murphy was placed in confinement, and there seems to be little doubt of that officer being able to account satisfactorily for his Act.

The Commander-in-Chief, and Staff returned to the Presidency on Saturday the 18th inst. and landed from the Hon'ble Company's Ship *Taptee* under the usual salute from the Fort. We understand that His Excellency in this short space of time, visited the whole of the Northern territory under the rule of the Bombay Government, viz: Kattywar, Cutch and Guzerat, with all the Military Stations and Troops in those Provinces, and finally embarked at Surat for the Presidency.

We hear that this tour has never before been accomplished in one season by any former Commander-in-Chief, although we understand that Sir Charles Colville visited the same stations, but that he took two years to effect it. We believe that not only the European Officers, but also the Native Officers and Soldiers, have felt great gratification from his visit to those remote regions, where they seldom or ever hope to see their Commander-in-Chief. It is easy to conceive the great good arising from a Commander-in-Chief identifying himself in this way with the Troops, and mixing, as Sir John Keane has done, in social intercourse, with the Officers of the Army under his control. At many of the Stations he has visited, we hear that the feuds and misunderstandings of years between Officers (and even families) have been made up; that they have all shaken hands, and joined at the same dinner table, and in the same Ball Room to do honor to their respected visitor.

His Excellency, throughout his Tour in the North, has publicly declared that the more he has seen of the Bombay Army, and the better he has become acquainted with it, the more proud and happy he has felt at the Command he has the honor to hold.

We had determined to put aside Steam Matters for the present, but cannot resist the temptation of the possible diversion of the *Hugh Lindsay* from the * *preposterous* trip to the Persian Gulph, which has been announced for the 28th of next month; and there is still ample time to notify any change of plans to the whole of India. At the time when the notice in question appeared in our columns, we were in doubt as to the arrangements which might or may have been made or signified, from hence or from home, for forwarding hither any Overland Mails from England by the respective routes of the Red Sea and the Euphrates, and in that doubt we continue. But taking it for granted, that the arrangements announced as likely to take place, have been based on a fair expectation of corresponding ones in England, we cannot but entertain very serious misgivings of similar disappointment, to that we experienced towards the end of last year, when calculating on the receipt of Overland Mails by the route of the Euphrates, to be brought down here, by the *Sir Herbert Compton*, *Shannon* and *Hugh Lindsay*, and the more particularly as since that time, the entire failure of the Syrian Scheme has become fully known in England, and has attracted the comments of the Press at home as a '*plan in which no practical man has any confidence.*'

We are quoting the words of the *Times* of October last, which we have already given in a former number; and however little we may be disposed to rest our faith on the veering politics of that Journal, we cannot but look to it as the fair organ of public opinion at home, on all neutral questions. At all events we think that, after the recent delays of the Red Sea Packets, and in the absence of positive certainty, that the April Mail from England will be dispatched viâ the Euphrates, it ought to be sought for, *first*, at Suez and that the *Hugh Lindsay* should on her return, be thither dispatched to receive it. Views of state policy, in which a *new* administration may not acquiesce, *may* have prompted the projected arrangements: let us first secure the means of arriving at information of what may have recently occurred at home. Be this however as it may, we revert to the impolicy of any act or suggestion emanating from hence, which may tend to divide the transmission of the mails from England, and so render ourselves the unwitting instruments of a diversion from the main channel, to which alone, all India must look, for the first solid establishment of Overland Communication.

Marred as our wishes hitherto have been, by insidious friends and foes, and by untimely projects, Comprehensive, Incomprehensive, and Incomprehensible, we call upon the honest Seekers of Overland Communication between England and India, to swerve neither to the right nor to the left of the Red Sea.

By this determined course, and by this alone, we may defeat the manœuvres or the diplomacy of the Court of Directors, or of the Board of Control, and we need not remind our Scottish Readers "That a wilful man maun have his way."

We have now barely time or space for a word or two as to an extraordinary paragraph in the *Madras Herald* of the 8th instant, which we cannot however let pass without comment, "The Bombay papers as well as our own appear a good deal dissatisfied at the delay which has taken place in bringing the August and September Packets; *and the Courier has gone so far as to declare openly, thereupon, against Steam Communication generally.*" Had this come from a Calcutta friend, we might have accounted for a perversion of our meaning, but we confess we have been astonished to find it in the columns of the *Madras Herald*. What we said in the Article, to which we presume that Journal refers, was as to the comprehensive scheme, and our words were "we eschew it *in toto*"—to this we adhere, and if we are not very greatly mistaken, our Madras Co-temporary not long since held the same opinion, for in his Number of the 1st inst. after saying that "the grand object is to have some regular communication or other, but in the present progressive state of Steam we ought *to begin* with the *shortest* and *cheapest* lines possible" we find these words "Let the British and Indian Governments take upon themselves the risk of the shortest and least expensive route for Overland Communication, and if it be afterwards, thought desirable, to send Steamers or Sailing vessels from this side of India, LET THE COMPREHENSIVES OF CALCUTTA AND MADRAS COME FORWARD AND ESTABLISH THEM AT THEIR OWN EXPENSE."

The ingenious dovetailing of our declaration against Steam generally, with the "thereupon" as to the August and September Packets, we really cannot comprehend. Whatever we may have felt, the only feeling we expressed, on the arrival of the August Packet, the only one which reached us, was one of satisfaction at being spared the necessity of having to compress a voluminous precis of stale intelligence, with which we observe the *Madras Herald* has favoured its readers at full length "From our London correspondent."

Having said thus much in self defence, we refer with pleasure to an article in our Co-temporary of the 11th inst.

In another part of our paper will be found an extract from the *Calcutta Courier* of the 4th inst. animadverting on the remarks which appeared in this paper of the 21st ult: respecting the system of Government advances on produce to England upon which we have a word or two to say.

After the specimens of Calcutta logic we have lately been favoured with, touching the Steam question, we are happy to discover that *facts* are still worth something within the Mahratta Ditch. In reference to our views of the advance System "our Brother Editor whose remarks are so *very* profound" readily admits that we have completely established our assertion,—that there exists no *necessity* whatsoever, for the Indian Government's resorting to the advance of their Revenues against produce, in order to effect their annual remittance to England, a voluntary concession which displays an uncommon instance of justice and liberality on the part of the Ditchers, in regard to any fact, matter, or thing, emanating from this obscure islet; and, on the whole, seems to indicate so near an approach to plain common sense, that a recantation of the Comprehensive Folly, may be fairly expected soon to follow.

The question of necessity in defence of the Government measure is thus very shortly disposed of; and with all due deference to our "*profound Brother*" of the East, we rather think that this was, at the period of the last Renewal, the only principle upon which the employment of Government capital, in rivalry with private enterprise, was at all excused or defended, *not justified*. The only doubts and difficulties started at that period, when the opinions of the most intelligent men of all parties were sought and obtained, having been solved by experience, we diffidently presume that it will be no very *profound* task to dislodge our Calcutta Brother from the position he has taken up in reserve, by shewing that the system of advances is, in a statesmanlike and financial sense, politically false and inexpedient, as well as commercially unjust. The *Calcutta Courier* is a very great stickler for names and authorities; for those *that be*, perhaps, in preference to those that *have been*; and we greatly fear that ought we might advance from these, would fade before the light of the Governor General, or the Governor General's Secretary. We hope however that our Brother will be too liberal to stigmatize as *interested* any opinion which may not coincide with the dogmas of the *Calcutta Courier*.

The quotations from the minutes of Evidence taken before a Select Committee of the House of Commons on the affairs of the East India Company, and the appendix thereto, which follow, will shew what has been thought, as to the injurious effect of the Government Revenues being employed primarily in the purchase of produce, and secondarily in advances upon it. We crave from the *Calcutta Courier* some deference to them.

Manchester Chamber of Commerce and East Indian Committee.

"To make heavy remittances without regard to profit, must of necessity unduly advance prices at certain periods and places, and as unduly depress them at others; and

* '*Pre-posterous*'-to put the cart before the horse.—*Printer's Devil.*

these fluctuations will be found to exceed in extent the amount of the disturbing cause, and will produce further injurious effects through the uncertainty and hazard they occasion to Commerce."

James Mackillop. "The amount invested in Indigo (By the Company to wit) being in some years small, and in others extensive, has occasioned fluctuation in prices, and proved prejudicial to the regular course of trade." The large extent of the Company's purchases in latter years, has occasioned Indigo to sell at high prices in Calcutta, and thereby encouraged an increase of cultivation, *so as now to yield a supply beyond the consumption, necessarily followed by ruinously low prices in this country.*"

G. de H. Larpent. "In the natural course of trade, if there be an excess of production on any article, the merchant must speedily adjust the balance between supply and demand, or he is ruined. Not so the Sovereign, in whose concerns the action of a Commercial loss, upon such a mass of Revenue and political resources, is not soon perceptible, and when felt its recurrence is not soon prevented, and certainly not prevented without *a very severe pressure upon the community*, from the extent of its dealings."

Robert Rickards. "The Company's interference in the buying market in India, never fails to produce a very injurious and unnatural rise of prices, destructive of the natural order and principles of trade."

William Crawford. "The inconveniences and disadvantages to the private traders from bringing the revenue of the State, to which profit or loss must be matter of comparative indifference, into competition with their capital, must be so obvious that I need hardly dwell upon them. It is only necessary to look at the account furnished by the Company, to see the capricious manner in which the public funds are likely to be applied to such a purpose. In the first year of the Company's speculations, the sum invested in indigo was about 26,000*l*. Next year it was more then treble this amount. In the succeeding year, this last amount itself was more than trebled. In the following year the amount invested fell off by 30 per cent. In the following it rose to be higher then ever. In 1827-28, the amount invested was 716,000*l*. Next year it was less than half this sum; and in the last year of the statement the investment was nearly doubled again. While no power can increase the demand, the violent and injurious fluctuation in trade, which must be the consequence of the public revenue being employed one year in the purchase only of the twentieth part of the staple produce of a country, in another of a fifth part, and in a third of a tenth part, as has been the case in the Company's purchases of indigo, may readily be imagined. Indeed, the account exhibited by the Company shows the enormous amount of the fluctuations which have taken place, and which, I believe, are unprecedented in any commodity of the same description. In the first year of the Company's speculations, the price per maund paid was but sicca rupeess 157. Next year it was 50 per cent. more, and in the third year very nearly 100 per ceut. more In the last year the price was near 40 per cent. less than in the third year."

Glasgow Chamber of Commerce. "Were the executive authority in India to cease carrying on Trade, we have no doubt the Funds required for Territorial purposes, in England, might be regularly supplied, and the Government effectually secured from loss by bad bills. *The simplest and safest mode of obtaining such funds would undoubtedly be, by opening the Indian Government Treasury in England, for money against drafts on the Indian Presidencies.*"

Lewis Loyd. "The most effectual mode would be to draw Bills upon the Indian Governments, and dispose of them in this country, and should money be advanced in India to individuals for their bills on England, the hazard of dishonoured bills might be avoided by the mode adopted by the Company of advancing two thirds of the value of merchandise to be consigned to them, as collateral security for the bills, *but this course would involve the question of trading.*"

We suppose that our Co-temporary will perhaps now admit, that there may be a difference between the commercial results of realizing in England, Three Millions Sterling by Bills on the Indian Treasuries, on the one hand, and obtaining the same end by investment or advance on Produce in India, on the other. We presume that he will admit that the grand obstruction on the Channel of Indian Trade, has been since the days of Solomon, the difficulty of outward remittance, and that the annual amount of private and commercial remittances from India to England, is at this moment greatly in excess of the natural wants and means of the Trade: and he may therefore concede that the opening of the Home Treasury, is a direct aid and encouragement to the transmission of *bona-fide capital* to India, while the advancing in India, must have the tendency to expel that very capital from the country by deteriorating its value, and disturbing its natural sources of investment. The *Calcutta Courier* may perhaps think that as far as the advantage to the country is concerned, it is of little moment whether the Capital employed therein be fixed or floating, real or fictitious, so long as it nominally exists. We differ from him *toto coelo*. The outpouring of the Government resources into the streams of Trade, engenders speculation, some may call it enterprize; prices will advance, production makes rapid strides, the export Returns are doubled, and thereupon the Government officials and Government philosophers, upraise of course a gladsome shout: a Paean of Prosperity. Without withdrawing the stimulus, reverse the picture, and we behold in gradual succession, over production, overstocked markests, falling prices, Produce depreciated below the cost of production, commercial distress, and a general crisis The case in illustration need not be pointed out to the Editor of the *Calcutta Courier*, nor need he be told how different are the results which flow from the steady introduction, and beneficial employment of real capital, under the fostering auspices of Government. The developement of national resources may not, under its sure though gradual operation, proceed at a ratio commensurate with the imaginations of the modern political economists, but we venture to say that during twenty years of a fostering policy to capital, the moral and physical improvement of India, will have been further and more permanently advanced, than if all her Revenues centupled had been expended in stimulating, capriciously and unnaturally, the productive energies of the Country. We have written at greater length than we had intended. We have sought to convince the *Calcutta Courier* that the Resources of India consist of the Capital invested in its Cultivation, Manufactures, and Trade, and that any cause leading to its increase, such as the facility and encouragement of Remittance to India, must tend to its improvement, and that on the contrary, any cause which temporarily disturbs to a large extent, the profits of that Capital, tends to its expulsion from India.

MADRAS.

CONSERVATIVE, March 7.

The *Prince Regent* left Plymouth on the 27th of October, was 24 days at anchor, and if 15 days are allowed for her deviation in going to Rio and the Cape the passage has only occupied in all 90 days. At Rio the Royal Yatch tried her rate of sailing with a squadron of Men of War of all nations and beat them all. The inhabitants of Madeira were in a state of great alarm when the Yatch was there and were in daily expectation of a visit from Don Miguel who had suddenly left Italy, but it is supposed that the Government will support Donna Maria, by an armed intervention.

MADRAS HERALD, October 8,

It will be seen, by our extracts from the *Fort St. George Gazette Extraordinary*, of Monday afternoon, that shortly after our *Extra* was in circulation the Right Honorable Lord Elphinstone disembarked at the Sea-gate Fort, with the usual formalities, and was sworn in directly afterwards in the Council Chamber, as Governor of Madras, and also, by a seperate commission, *Commander in-Chief of the Fort and Garrison and Fort St. George, and the Town of Madraspatnam.* When Lord Elphinstone was first spoken of, as being appointed Governor of Madras, it was said, in reference to his rank in the Army, that he would not hold the appointment of Commander-in-Chief of Fort St. George and the Town of Madras, as his predecessor had done, but that that honour would devolve on His Excellency Sir P. Maitland, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces.—Whether it was merely an idle rumour from the first, or whether an alteration has since been made, we have not yet been able to ascertain.

There was nothing in the ceremony of Lord Elphinstone's landing on Monday, to distinguish it particularly from other exhibitions of the same sort.—We heard it remarked that His Lordship's appearance was extremely juvenile, but from our own observation we should say he looks considerable more than thirty.

The Bombay papers, as well as our own, appear a good deal dissatisfied at the delay which has taken place in bringing the August and September Packet; and the *Courier* has gone so far as to declare openly, thereupon, against Steam Communication generally. It is hardly necessary to say that nothing can be more unfair than to blame Steam Communication for the detention which the mails have met with; for if a Steam Vessel had been in readiness we should have had our August despatch by the end of September, instead of the beginning of March—and, long before this, we should have been in possession of news to the beginning of January, instead of the third week in October.

But we ask again, why, in the absence of steam Vessels and the uncertainty of steam Communication being fully established, say for another, twelve months, between India and Suez, a certain number of sailing vessels might not be despatched to the Red Sea in the intervals between the voyages of the Hugh Lindsay, *at the expense of the people of India*, who are so unanimously anxious for improving the communication with the mother country? If we could only thereby demonstrate some of the advantages of the Red Sea route, as was done last year, by the arrival of the June packet, in a sailing vessel, is the shortest time on record; and convince the people at home of our ardent desire for promoting the intercourse between the countries, we should be amply repaid for the excess of expenditure which would most probably attend such an establishment.

We agree with the *Examiner* that there is no chance of Mr. Waghorn being to blame in the matter—for, without vessels of any description to send the packets by, all the anxiety in the world would not assist in their transmission.

The good people in Calcutta were in extacies the other day at the support which comprehensive Steam Navigation had received by an article in the *Asiatic Journal*—and well they might for we believe it is the only production in favour of the comprehensive schemes which has ever emanated from a person residing beyond the localities from whence they originated. But the Calcutta papers were not content with the intrinsic merits of the article in question, (allowing that it displayed considerable acquaintance with the subject,) nothing less would do than to father it upon Sir James Carnac, the Chairman of the Court of Directors—and one of their reasons for doing so was that it was signed "C" which would answer for both Carnac and Chairman. What other reasons our Contemporaries had for believing that the Chairman of the Court of Directors would choose such an equivocal means of supporting Steam Navigation, we are unable to say; but it is only fair to presume that they were guided by something more plausible than the mere coincidence of an anonymous signature.

But the evidences of authorship, whatever they were, although quite conclusive at Calcutta, like the arguments in favour of "going round the Church" have been very differently received at Bombay, as will be seen by an extract from the *Courier* of the 28th ultimo.—Leaving out of the question the improbability of Sir James Carnac condescending to the use of the slang language attributed to him, it is quite incredible, as the *Courier* says, that he of all men in the world should have been ignorant of the real merits of the question as it then stood; or that the country Editor of the *Asiatic Journal* would presume to correct the Chairman of the Court of Directors.—*March*, 11.

CALCUTTA.

CALCUTTA COURIER,—March 4.

Under our Bombay head we have inserted an article from the *Bombay Courier*, giving a statement of the sums drawn by the Company from England upon India in 1834-5 and in 1835-6, and of the sums advanced in India upon bills secured by consignments during nearly an equal period up to a date in the early part of last year. The comments of our brother editor thereon are not very profound. Not content with shewing by this statement that the Company *can* provide their whole remittance by negociating bills in London upon their Indian treasuries, he calls the system of advances in India "draining India of its resources" and "expelling private capital from the country." How either of these results is the consequence of the latter system and not of the former to the same extent, it puzzles us to imagine. In both cases the same amount is paid out of the treasuries in India and to the very same class of persons, merchants and other speculators wanting to employ the money in purchasing produce of the country and in shipping it to England. If there be any difference to the disadvantage of India, it is clearly on the side of the negociations in Europe, which not only absorb a large amount of English private capital for many months in a condition perfectly inactive, but absorb a proportion of that capital which would otherwise find its way to India in British manufactures or in specie, in either case swelling the amount of British capital employed in India. It is really surprising what fallacies are boldly put forth as arrangements ostensibly to support liberal principles, but really to back the private interests of a section of the community, and to increase the profits of the few at the expence of the mass.

BENGAL HURKARU.—March 1.

The Review at Dum Dum.—The review at Dum Dum on Monday, was a very brilliant spectacle, the whole of the manœuvres being performed in the most beautiful manner imaginable. Brigadier Penny, commanding the Barrackpore Infantry Brigade, and at this time temporarily in command of the Presidency Division, was the reviewing officer, Lord Auckland attending, not in his capacity of Governor of the Garrison of Fort William (of which the troops at Dum Dum and Barrackpore form a part) but on horseback as a simple spectator, to enjoy the pleasure of witnessing a spectacle somewhat out of the common routine of inspections and reviews. After the horse and foot had marched round, His Lordship and Miss Eden mounted one of the state elephants, the better to see the practice and manœuvring.

After the practice, the interest of which was a good deal injured early in the evening, by the very first shell fired choosing wilfully to ignite the mine and blow up the flag staff, the Government House party and Staff, ajourned to the quarters of the Commandant of Artillery, Brigadier Faithful; to dress and refresh, after the two or three hours exposure to smoke and dust, on an unusually warm evening; thence, at 8 o'clock to the Mess House, where a large party of guests was assembled in the Library and a grand dinner of 150 covers laid out under the Governor General's Durbar tents.

The dinner was followed by a brilliant display of fireworks and these by a ball, which lasted till long past midnight.

The Governor-General and Miss Eden retired about eleven.

We have been present at many Reviews at Dum Dum, but never yet at one so crowded. Both the roads leading to Dum Dum were covered with foot passsengers and vehicles of all descriptions, enveloped in an unceasing cloud of dust. Nothing could be more beautiful than the whole sight. The Horse Artillery, as usual, attracted the largest share of attention, and it was impossible not to admire the high order of the whole, and in particular the fine condition of the horses.

Russian Aggrandisement.—We have more than once stated our belief, that the fears of the alarmist, on the subject of Russian aggrandisement, are greater than are warranted by a calm and rational survey of the means and resources of that power. Those means are, no doubt, great and those resources are vast; but it has no power of concentration of strength. This question is well put in a little book just published by Mr. Richard Cobden, a silk manufacturer of Manchester, written with a view of counteracting the effect of the doctrines, promulgated by Mr. Urquhart, a strenuous advocate for the armed interference on the part of England in defence of Turkey, against Russian usurpation. We have already taken occasion, to quote from Cobden's pamphlet, and we think the following passage contains very excellent good sense:—

The stupendous size of the Russian empire has excited the wonder and alarm of timid writers, who forget that "it is an identity of language, habits, and character, and not the soil or the name of a master which constitutes a great and powerful nation." Ruling over eighty different nations or tribes, the autocrat of all the Russias(claims the allegiance of people of every variety of race, tongue, and religion. Were it possible to transport to one common centre of his empire, the gay opera lounger of St. Petersburgh, habited in the Parisian mode; the fierce Bashkir of the Ural Mountain, clad in rude armour, and armed with bow and arrows; the Crimean, with his camel, from the southern steppes; and the Esquimaux, who traverses with his dogs the frozen regions of the north—these fellow subjects of one potentate, would encounter each other with all the surprise and ignorance of individuals meeting from England, China, Peru and New Holland; *nor would the time or expense incurred in the journey be greater in the latter than in the former interview.* It must be obvious to every reflecting mind that vast deductions must be made from the written and statistical resources of a nation possessing no unison of religious or political feeling, when put in competition with other empires, identified in faith, language and national characteristics.

The grand elements of national strength, are density of population, and ability to contribute to state necessities. In what rank does Russia stand in reference to these two important circumstances? We shall see. For each square league, England contains 1457 Inhabitants.

France, ...	1063	"
Prussia, ...	792	"
Russia, ...	181	"

To the purposes of the State, each Englishman contributes, ... £3 13 4

Frenchman	1	8	4
Prussian, ...	0	17	6
Russia, ...only	0	11	8

If we were to trace, (says our author,) step by step the opposite careers of aggrandisement—of England, pursuing the march of improvement within the area of four of her counties, by exploring the recesses of her mines, by constructing canals, docks, and railroads by her mechanical inventions, and by the patience and ingenuity of her manufacturers in adapting their fabrics to meet the varying wants and tastes of every habitable latitude of the earth's surface; and of Russia, adhering to her policy of territorial conquest, by despoiling of provinces the empires of Turkey, Persia, and Sweden, by subgjugating in unwilling bondage the natives of Georgia and Circassia, and by seizing with robber hand the soil of Poland:—if we were to trace these opposite careers of aggrandisement, what should we find to be the relative consequences to these two empires? England, with her steamengine and spinning-frame, has erected the standard of improvement, around which every nation of the world has already prepared to rally; she has by the magic of her machinery, united for ever two remote hemispheres in the bonds of peace, by placing Europe and America in absolute and inextricable dependence on each other; England's industrious classes, through the energy of their commercial enterprise, are, at this moment, influencing the civilization of the whole world by stimulating the labour, exciting the curiosity, and promoting the taste for refinement, of barbarous communities, and, above all, by acquiring and teaching to surrounding nations, the beneficent attachment to peace. Such are the moral effects of improvement in Britain; against which Russia can oppose comparatively little, but the example of violence, to which humanity points as a beacon to warn society from evil. And if we refer to the physical effects—if, for the sake of convincing minds which do not recognise the far more potent moral influences—we descend to a comparison of mere brute force, we find still greater superiority resulting from ingenuity and labour. The manufacturing districts alone—even the four counties of England, comprising Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire, and Staffordshire—could at any moment, by means of the wealth drawn, by the skill and industry of its population, from the natural resources of this comparative speck of territory, combat with success the whole Russian empire, Liverpool and Hull, with their navies and Manchester, Leeds, and Birmingham, with their capitals, could blockade, within the waters of Cronstadt, the entire Russian marine, and annihilate the commerce of St. Petersburgh.—*Hurkaru, March 6.*

We take some blame to ourselves for not having earlier noticed the "Report" of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce; for it contains not only matters of local interest, but much deserving of the best consideration of the other Presidencies; and it is in every respect most creditable to the zeal and talents of the parties who have drawn it up. The Committee commenced their labours by soliciting and obtaining from the Government the recognition of the Chamber as a public body, and by tendering and requesting mutual co-operation from similar associations in this country and in Great Britain, viz; the East India and China associations of London and Liverpool, the Chambers of Commerce of Glasgow and Manchester, of Madras and of Calcutta. It is impossible to calculate too highly the advantages which must necessarily arise from these frank and cordial communications between influential bodies, embarked in the same pursuits and engaged in common interests. Such a combination contains all the strength, but none of the evils of a monopoly. The individuals follow their immediate objects, each relying on his own industry and skill; but rallying under one standard, when danger from any source threatens the general welfare, The errors contemplated or committed by Governments in their Financial and Commercial policy, find but feeble opponents in the unconnected desultory protests of Messrs. A, B. or C. D.; but when the mercantile community move in concert, carrying with them not only the concentrated opinions of their own locality, but echoing those of the remotest link of the commercial chain, there are few Chancellors of the Exchequer, Presidents of Boards of Trade, or Secretaries in Financial Departments, who do not "hear and tremble."—*March 7.*

We have received "per Malta Packets," care of "Mr. Waghorn, Alexandria," London Letters of July, August and September! This is but sorry encouragement for the friends of Steam Navigation. We fear we may thank the Euphrates expedition for much, if not all of the disappointment we have experienced in the Red Sea route.—*March 8.*

DELHI GAZETTE.—March 8.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief arrived at Loodianah on the morning of the 26th ultimo. His Excellency, after inspecting the Troops at that Station, continued his march, in progress to Lahore, the same evening.

The Maharaja is reported to be engaged in the sports of the field, which, from the spot chosen—the banks of the river—and the delightful season, afford him much gratification: he is in excellent health and spirits, and hilarity and happiness are now the chosen handmaids of his Court.

Davee Chund, the Vakeel of the Bekaneer Rajah, was favored with an audience, when he presented a letter from his Master, expressive of high esteem and friendsip, and intimating that a Nuzzer of one horse and two Camels were to be sent for the Maharaja's acceptance The Vakeel was questioned as to the relations that subsisted between the Vakeel and his Master, and he replied that they were those of Master and Servant, for, the Rajah—his Master—thought and acted only as they dictated. Upon hearing this the Courtiers broke forth into enlogiums upon the English who had, in so short a period, carved out for themselves so extensive an empire—subverting ancient Kingdoms and taming the pride and insolence of the Roostums and hre-eaters of Hindoostan.

Mohun Lall, the Ukhbar Nuvees, was desired to inform the Sircar whether the report he had heard was true that the Nazims of Scinde had sought the aid of the British, and had offered Shikarpore, with the surrounding Country, to them as an inducement to take up their cause. Mohun Lall replied that he had not heard the report, but that, admitting it to be true the treaty entered into between the Maharaja and the Honorable Company would prevent a transfer of this nature being effected without the concurrence of the Huzoor.

Kunnia Lall, the Vakeel of the Ulwa Walla, was informed that a Nuzzerana of four lacs of rupees a year would be required of his Master, and that, he must enter into a bond of agreement to provide a contingent of 700 Horse, 1 Battalion of Infantry, 2 Guns and 3 Zumboorrucks for the Sircar's use—and further, that he would never cross the Sutlege without the sanction of the Huzoor being previously obtained,

Candahar.—The reported invasion of Shikarpore by the Sikhs has alarmed the Mountain Chiefs of Candahar, two of whom, supposing that there is some other ulterior object in view, have assembled a body of 20,000 men with which they propose to watch the moments of the Sikhs, and when they find them fairly in possession of Shikarpore, to return to, and protect their Mountain fastnesses.

Hyderabad.—A report prevails at this place that two large Boats, with a War-Ship, containing British Troops, have come by way of the Sea up the Indus, cast anchor, and disembarked the Troops below Hyderabad. This intelligence has struck a great panic in the Scindians who are speculating upon the object of this display, and who begin to be alarmed for themselves, particularly as it is now confidently rumoured that these Ships and Troops are to be, immediately, followed by numerous others from Bombay. To allay their fears pains have been taken to circulate a report that this force is destined for Cabool at the requisition of Dost Mahomed, or for Persia to meet and repel the results of the strong friendship subsisting between the Russian and Persian States.

Bokhara.—From recent arrivals from this place it has been ascertained that this State is torn asunder by anarchy and misrule of every kind—the Cultivator is oppressed by the Soldier and the Soldier is, in histurn, dissatisfied with the Government. The land is untilled, and all things are in disorder. The inhabitants of many of the frontier Towns, disgusted with the supineness of the Bokhara Government, have transferred their allegiance to the Persian Government in the usual style—namely, that of introducing their Thannahs into and expelling those of Bokhara out of their Towns. This circumstance has, materially, advanced the designs of Persia, which, at the instigation, no doubt, of Russia, contemplates the subjection of Balk, Bokhara, and Kirman; but, in this they are likely to meet with more opposition than they would anticipate—for, the neighbouring States fully aware that their own fate will, in some measure, be involved in that of these three ancient Kingdoms, will not quietly stand by and see them fall.

Loodianah.—Two Companies of His Majesty's 13th Light Infantry and two Troops of the 4th Native Lancers have arrived from Kurnaul to accompany His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief to Lahore, which he is expected to reach shortly *via* Loodianah.

COLUMBO OBSERVER.

Lady Horton has left Ceylon with the good wishes for her future happiness of all classes of the community whose esteem she most deservedly earned. She has held her high station in the society of this colony during times of the greatest perplexity; but never did woman perform so difficult and conspicuous a part more to admiration of all, and contending parties than did Lady Horton; for when ever looked upon by those beneath her, like the moon, she was serene and undisturbed by the striving elements that appeared to surround her, and, like her compeer, shone with equal brilliancy and benignity on every object that came within her influence.

The Hugh Lindsay.—The *Hugh Lindsay* has for the third or fourth time we believe, sailed from Bombay with an overland mail without any previous notice having been given to the people of Ceylon. We have repeatedly remonstrated at this, but have been told it was owing to a want of timely information, as to the intended departure of the steamer, from the Bombay to the Ceylon Post Office. In such cases it is to be imagined that when the approaching voyage of the *Hugh Lindsay* is known even through the continental paper, as it has now been for sometime, that any opportunity of forwarding letters by sea from hence to Bombay, a passage at this season of about 10 days, would be availed of by our Post Office. Such however is unfortunately not the case, at least has not been in a recent instance, for H. M. Ship *Winchester* sailed from Colombo on the 7th January, and arrived at Bombay on the 18th, on the evening of which day the steamer sailed for Suez. But one person here that we know, of, availed himself of this mode of forwarding letters to England; and the advantageous results that will probably arise to him from this speedy communication with home that has been lost to others, may be incalculable. If Government by ordinances prohibit the sending of let

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ters, with the exception of by friends, messengers, &c., otherwise than through the Post Office, they ought to insure the greatest vigilance on the part of that establishment in allowing no opportunity of forwarding mails to slip. That this is generally the case we admit, but we feel called upon to notice the present exception in consequence of its very serious effects,

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RECOLLECTIONS OF THE COURT OFST. PETERSBURGH, BY THE DUKE DE VICENZA,*

(From the Court Journal, October 15.)

The brilliant Court of St. Petersburgh, at the period of my mission, presented a reallization of the traditions of the age of Louis XIV. On reception days, the splendour which prevailed in the saloon of the Palace exceeded everything that imagination can picture. It equalled the wonders of the 'Arabian Nights.' These scenes of truly Asiatic luxury were animated by groupes of lovely and graceful women, gay, accomplished, and intelligent: and young noblemen, whose elegance of dress and courtier-like manners might have rivalled our best French models, and thrown our Richelieus and Narbounes into the shade.

Every succeeding day brought with it some new *fete* or party of pleasure. Balls, concerts, plays, and suppers filled up the evenings, whilst excursions in sledges were the favourite amusements of the mornings.

The following circumstance will serve to shew the vast abundance of money which is at the disposal of the wealthier classes in Russia. On the occasion of a grand ball and supper given at the Embassy, a sum equivalent to 125 louis was paid for a plate of pears (five in number). Cherries, purchased at the rate of four francs each, were served in as great profusion as though they had cost but 20 sous per pound. It must not be supposed that this was anything extraordinary. On the contrary, it would have been singular if these costly fruits had not been procured. The tables of the Russian grandees were all served in this style of luxury. I often expressed to Rayneval, the principal Secretary of the Embassy,† my regret at being compelled to yield to this absurd waste of money.

In my private correspondence with Napoleon, I entered into the most minute details of everything that took place. He had recommended me not to spare *commerages*, with which he used to be much amused, Having told him of the pears just alluded to, he said, in his next letter to me:—"When I was a poor Lieutenant, I should have thought myself very fortunate if I had had the price of your plate of Russian pears for my years income. What monstrous folly!"

Every body has heard of the Emperor Alexander's *liaison* with the captivating Madame Narith——. This lady was allied, on her mother's side, to the Imperial family. Her husband held an appointment at the Court of St. Petersburgh, similar to that which in France is called the *Grand-Veneur*. If I possessed descriptive talent, I could draw a portrait which would turn the heads of half the *elegans* of Paris—and even then I should fall short of my model, I might, it is true, describe her features, her complexion, and her height; but how convey any idea of that ever-varying expression of countenance and grace of manner which are the most attractive charms in a beautiful and accomplished woman. Madame Narith——was decidedly the most fascinating creature I ever knew. She was beautiful—exquisitely beautiful,—lively, clever, and accomplished; an excellent musician, a pleasing singer, and a most perfect coquette. If I had had the good luck, or the ill luck, to have fallen in love with her, I feel assured that she would have driven me mad.

The beautiful Mdlle. G—— for a time succeeded in seducing Alexander from his allegiance to Madame Narith.—— The numerous admirers of the latter lady, who had hitherto kept aloof now ventured to offer adoration at the altar of the forsaken divinity. Among the number was Leon N——, a young relation of Madame Narith——. This long-concealed attachment, now encouraged by a few kind looks and words, manifested itself without reserve. He was just at that age when a young man will sacrifice prospects of fortune and ambition or even life itself, to an absorbing passion. Leon sacrificed all. Whether or not the lady rewarded his devotedness. I cannot say.

At Court the affair was publicly known and talked of, and nothing could exceed the Emperor's mortification. He conceived himself entitled to the privilege of being fathless; but he could not concede the same latitude to the lady.

I had not resided at St. Petersburgh many months before the Emperor Alexander admitted me to his most confidential friendship. His disposition was frank and amiable. We were both about the same age. I loved him as a brother; and he on bis part treated me with a degree of familiarity and confidence which he did not extend to his own brothers. They were only his subjects, not his friends.

One day, during his temporary rupture with Madame Narith——, the Emperor said to me, "My dear Duke, is it not strange that the groupe of coxcombs who are fluttering round Antone do not perceive that their folly might be the means of endangering their fortunes and their liberty. I have the power, if I chose to exercise it—I might—But no! the heartless coquette is not worth the sacrifice it would cost me to exile a man for her sake. I will not resort to an arbitrary act to avenge myself, and yet I sometimes feel very much inclined to send Leon N—on a jonrney to Siberia. But I am sure she does not love him. She does not care the least in the world for him. Antone is incapable of loving any one. Vanity is her ruling passion. She thinks to mortify me; but the truth is, am now perfectly indifferent to her."

I had some little difficulty in preserving my gravity for it was easy to understand the innocent feminine manœuvre to which Madame Narith—had resorted. She merely wished to alarm the Emperor's jealousy, and she succeeded beyond her hopes. In the space of a month Alexander was again her slave The Emperor was at this time a young man, in every acceptation of the word: and during the interval of his *broullè* with Madame Narith—he was incapable of fixing his attention to any important business. "My dear Duke," said he to me one day, smiling "the head follows the heart. We will, if you please, defer this communication till next week. Write to your Court, and say that I am rather unwell. It is the truth. This woman drives me mad." I wrote as the Emperor directed,, and shortly after I received from Napoleon a letter in his own hand-writing. To this letter, which contained diplomatic instructions, there was appended the following postscript:—

"It is a matter of curiosity to me to observe the weakness of this man, who was born on a throne. A woman turns the head of the Autocrat of all the Russias ..... All the women in the world could not make me lose an hour. Make me acquinted with all the curious details which come under your notice. The private life of a man is a reflector from which useful lessons may be learned."

If Napolean was eager to be made acquainted with all that was going on at the Court of St. Petersburgh, Alexander was no less curious to hear the gossip of the Tuileries. But whenever he began to question me on this subject, I assumed my diplomatic character; that is to say, I was discreet and reserved. But it was not so easy to evade the interrogatories of the Empress, whose curiosity respecting Napoleon was quite insatiable. Whenever we were *petit comitè* she overwhelmed me with questions about *my* Emperor. Then with that graceful gaiety, for which she was so distinguished, she would turn the conversation to our court balls and *fêtes*, the receptions at the Tuileries, the regulations observed at them, the dresses, &c.

"Monsieur le Duc," srid she, with that enchanting tone of voice, and sprightliness of manner which was peculiar to her, "how I should like to be concealed in some invisible corner, at one of your grand court balls. I want to know whether your country women are as charming as they are represented. I should like to see them in all their grace and splendour. I am told they are quite incomparable.

"The same may be said, Madam," replied I, "of the ladies of all countries. They are all lovely and incomparable."

"Well! I must take your word for that," said the Empress, "for I have never been out of Russia, But it is very certain that we cannot rival the French ladies in elegance of dress. What a pity it is that their fashions are always old before they arrive here!" I happened to mentions this little conversation in one of my letters to the Emperor.

In a very short time after the Empress Elizabeth received from Paris four large boxes of millinery. They were filled with hats, caps, ribbons flowers, feathers—in short, everything that female heart could desire. The Empress had ordered nothing, and she expected nothing from Paris. All these beautiful things had come no one knew from whence—they had fallen as it were from the clouds.

When I joined the private court circle in the evening, the Empress stepped up to me, and playfully holding up her finger as if in taken of reproof, she said. "So, Monsieur, I find you have been indiscreet. However, you may say that the things are exquisitely beautiful, and I am highly delighted with them" I was confounded. The Empress's meaning was incomprehensible to me.

Next day there was a sledge party. The Emperor did me the honour to desire that I would take my seat in the Empress's sledge. "Will your Majesty," said I, "condescend to explain to me the nature of the indiscretion of which you say I have been guilty?" The Empress unravelled the riddle. I assured her that I had not been in the secret, and that not a line had been addressed to me on the subject; which was the fact.

I feel quite certain that the whole affair was kept a profound secret, and that no one knew whence the orders had emanated. Napoleon's gallantry was in excellent taste. The articles of millinery were not of sufficient value to be presented to *the Empress*; but they were all that could gratify a young and elegant woman.

At the grand Imperial reviews it was evident that Alexander spared no effort to impress on the French Embassy a favourable opinion of the excellent discipline and brilliant appearance of the troops. On these points the Emperor might well cherish some feeling of vanity. At the reviews there were often 30,000, and never less than 20,000, men assembled.

They were mounted and clothed in admirable style. Each regiment of cavalry had horses of one uniform colour, all black, grey, white, bay, &c. The colonels of these regiments were all Russian noblemen of distinguished rank, and they all expended immense sums on their troops. The corps of horse guards, raised by Paul I, was conspicuous for its fine appearance. Every private was a Knight of Malta. They wore red uniforms, with cuirasses of silver having the cross of the order in relief, forming, as it were, a large escutcheon on their breasts. All the officers of this corps were men of rank. Their uniforms were radiant with gold and jewels, and their Arabian horses were inconceivably superb.

One of the finest regiments of the hussars of the Imperial guard was commanded by Count Scherwertinskin, the brother of Madame Narith——. He was one of the handsomest young men I ever saw. His red uniform, richly embroidered with gold and trimmed with costly fur, set off his noble military figure. The horses of his regiment were black, and they were most splendidly caparisoned; the saddles of the officers being embroidered with gold. Scherwertinskin expended 50,000 rubles per annum on his regiment, independently of the allowance of the state. None of the officers would have mounted a horse worth less than 2,000 rubles.

I recollect a droll adventure which occurred to the Emperor Alexander on the eve of one of the Imperial reviews. The Emperor was fond of walking about alone and unattended, and he often extended his pedestrian excursions to the distance of two or three leagues from St. Petersburgh. On the occasion here alluded to he had taken a very long walk, and finding himself much fatigued, he got into one of the public sledges. "Drive to the Imperial Palace at St. Petersburgh," said he to the Iswotschilk. "I will take you as near to it as I can," replied the man, "but the guards will not allow us to approach the gates." On arriving within a little distance of the Palace, the sledge stopped. "We must not go any further," said the sledge-driver. The Emperor jumped from the sledge, saying. "Wait there, and I will send some one to pay you." "No, no," replied the man "that will not do. Your comrades often make me the same promise, but they always forget to keep it. I will give no more credit. If you have not the money, leave something with me until you get it." The Emperor smiled and unfastening the clasp of his cloak, he threw it into the sledge, "Here," said he, "take this." On ascending to his apartments he directed a *valet de-chambre* to take fifty rubles to the Iswotschilk who had driven him and bring back his cloak, When the valet reached the spot where the Emperor had left the sledge he found about twenty drawn up in a line. "Which of you drove the Emperor?" enquired the valet. No one answered "Who has got a cloak?" said the valet. pursuing his enquiry. "An officer left a cloak with me," exclaimed a sledge driver. "Give it to me, and here is your fare." "Great St. Nicolas!" exclaimed the astonished driver, and seizing his reins. he drove rapidly away amidst the shouts of the assembled Iswotschilks.

This happened on the eve of one of the grand reviews. After the troops had defiled all the commanders of corps formed a guard round the Emperor. "Gentlemen," said Alexander, "I am much pleased with the fine appearance and excellent discipline of your troops. But tell your officers from me that they last night made me submit to the humiliation of leaving my cloak in pledge for my honesty." Every one started with astonishment. "I assure you," resumed the Emperor, "the sledge-driver who brought me home refused to trust me because he said, *my comrades* often forgot to pay him." The Emperor related the anecdote in the evening to Madame Narith——, who laughed heartily at his adventure.

In 1810 St. Petersburgh presented a scene of gaiety which no capital in the world could excel. All our most admired singers and dancers had obtained *congès* for Russia; and when we were seated at the threatre of St. Petersburgh we might have imagined ourselves at the grand Opera in Paris. Among the music *célébrités* we had Boveldieu and M, and Madame Lafont. Lafont was at that time the first violinist in Europe and his wife was a charming singer and a very beautiful woman. They gave a series of morning concerts, which were regularly attended by the members of the Imperial family and leading fashionables of St. Petersburgh.

M. Nariskim, the Grand Chamberlain, lived in a style of regal splendour. The fitting up and furnishing of his Palace exceeded every thing of which we can form any idea in France. It was said that the Emperor intended to confer on the Grand Chamberlain the dignity of Prince. At one of his brilliant parties he and I were walking together in a conservatory adjoining the suit of drawing. rooms I made allusion to the magnificence of his Palace, and observed that the title of Prince would well accord with the owner of so princely an abode.—"My dear Duke," said he, "I know it his been whispered that the Emperor is about to confer that title upon me. But I will explain the matter to you, for I do not wish you or your Court to believe that a Nariskim can hold the title of Prince from any other than himself. The Emperor did express a desire to elevate me to the dignity in question, but my answer was—'Sire, the mother of Peter the Great was a Nariskim. Having the honour to be so nearly allied to your Majesty, the title of Prince cannot elevate me in rank or dignity. The Nariskims are equal in illustrious descent to the Emperor of all the Russias.'" whether this bold language was quite agreeable to Alexander I cannot pretend to say; but the Emperor possessed too much dignity and generosity of mind to manifest any displeasure on the subject, The Grand Chamberlain retained the Imperial favour; but nothing more was ever said about the Principality.

*It will be recollected that the Duke de Vicenza (Caulincourt) was sent by Napoleon as Embassador to Russia, after the peace of Tolsit.

†This is the M Rayneval who was lately the French Embassador at Madrid, and who died during the recent insurrection in that capital.

LEGISLATIVE REFORM.

The *Spectator* is formally called upon by the *Standard*, to a distinct plan of Peerage Reform, which would not produce an Oligarchical or a Democratic despotism. The *Standard* maintains, that a single Legislative Chamber must degenerate into a despotism of the one or the other description. This argument rests on the assumption that the assembly in question would be beyound control. No doubt, *any* assembly, possessed of irresponsible authority, might abuse its power If that authority were nominally in the hands of two or more assemblies, it would make little difference. In Venice, the despotism of the Oligarchy was not the less real or weighty because it was shared between "the Forty and "the Ten.

The *Standard*, with commendable coolness, and spurning the idea of being deterred from "the most ample and searching discussion" by the impulse of fear, allows us the option of a House of Lords "extinguished actually, by its total suppresion." or "virtually extinguished, by any change rendering it less independent and irresponsible than it is," For the sake of simplifying the view, we accept the former supposition—namely, that the House of Peers shall be "actually extinguished," and the two Legislative Chambers merged into one. The *Standard* says, that this assembly must be beyond control; and, at all events in a few years, after the present generation of virtuously-trained Conservatives has died out, would become tyrannical and despotic. How such a result may be easily prevented, it is our part to explain.

Assuredly, if we had the construction of the new Constitution, we would not take the present House of Commons as the model of our Legislative Chamber. In the first place, the constituent body should not be allowed to remain in its present state. The number of electors should not be greatly enlarged, so far at least as to include every householder, the elective franchise should be made perfectly simple; by means of the sacred shield of the ballot we would secure the perfectly free exercise of the franchise; and the duration of Parliaments should be made short and certain. An assembly so constituted would represent the great majority. What could it represent but the broadest interests of the whole nation? To suppose that the act of a body so constituted, and so controlled, would be hurtful to people from whom it derived its authority, is inconceivable, except upon the monstrous notion that mankind would freely choose to be robbed and trampled upon. An entire change must be effected in the constitution of man before, having the means of obtaining, with very slight exertion, security and protection for his acquisitions and enjoyments, he will choose those to rule over him who plunder and oppress him. It is advantageous to the community at large that the rights of property should be maintained; therefore we might be sure that such an assembly as we have described would not sanction any measure for defrauding public or private cerditors. It is the interest of the great majority that just laws should be administered firmly and impartially; therefore a Legislature truly representing the majority, would be careful to eschew the iniquities with which the English Statutes at Large teem—would carefully guard the independence of well-chosen judges, and bring justice home to every man's door at the least possible cost. Because the great mass of the people live by the fruits of their own industry, their representatives would not curb its exercise, or confine its scope, by such abominations as corn-laws or timber duties. Then, laws are not to be made or institutions framed on the notion that men are brutes: there are such things as feelings of right and wrong, justice and injustice; good name and self respect are dear to us all; some men have consciences and religious preferences. All such sentiments, like every other branch of personal rights, would naturally be regarded by the real representatives of their fellow citizens. In short, the interests of the many instead of the few—that is to say, *the just rights of all*—would find their best defence in the acts of an assembly elected by and responsible to the many, not the few.

If the broadest interest of the whole community would alone be cared for by such a Legislature, what interests would suffer?—None of an honest kind, The sufferers would be the jobbers, the public plunders, the gainers by injustice and by the wrongs and losses of society. Doubtless, sinecurities in law, Church, and State, would tremble for their share of the public spoil. Lords and gentlemen who sell their votes to railway speculators, or use them to enhance the value of their coal-mines, or their West Indian estates, or their barley-land, will be called to account for pushing their private gains to the general damage; and be prevented, by deprivation of their power from repeating their offences. The cost and the folly of wars would be deemed sufficient reasons for keeping at peace,—very much to the disappointment of those who have had a monopoly of warlike honours and rewards. These are some of the parties whose interests would lead them to dread a Government acting for the benefit of the great majority. They care nothing for constitutional abstractions. It is not for the theoretical balance of power in the State, that the Lords resist the Commons, and the Tories labour continually to regain office. It is for certain tangible advantages—for *money*, in one shape or another—that these men contend with us. The "glorious Constitution" has been to them something better than an abstraction or a theory; it has filled their pockets, and provided for their children, from generation to generation. Therefore it is that they abhor the prospect of real Representative Government; therefore it is that they conjure up the phantom of Democratical tyranny. The many seek nothing but the quiet enjoyment of their own; but, give them the power, and will secure that enjoyment from invassion by banded plunderers. Hence the Tory tears of every downfal of the "glorious Constitution." They know that the great majority of the community having *something* to lose there would be a far more powerful permanent interest in favour of the rights of property, then could be mustered for an equal portion of lands and money after a scramble; and therefore they have no fear of being despoiled of what justly belongs to them, in the event of the majority obtaining dominion—they only fear the loss of what they know full well they have no right to retain.

The *Standard* has now the *Spectator's* view of the necessary working of Legislative Reform—if not so minutely traced out as it might be in a larger space, yet surely with as much distinctness, at least, as the *Standard's* phantom. The details of a plan could be settled without difficulty; as they will be, when men unite to give a practical force to their matured opinions. The details would include a considerable diminution of the present numbers of the House of Commons, and internal regulations for obtaining that careful and deliberate examination of measures, which under the existing system of the two Houses is looked for in vain.

In reply to an objection of prejudice, or mistaken analogy, against a single legislative assembly, urged by the *Standard*—that the Long Parliament and the French Constituent Assembly degenerated into instruments of tyranny—we think it enough to observe, that we are dealing with Englishmen in the nineteenth century, who have gained no small stock of political knowledge and experience, and are daily becoming more capable of self-government; and that we assume the proposed change to be effected peacefully and lawfully, not in the midst of a civil war or by the infuriated victims of centuries of oppression. —*Spectator October*, 1.

BREACH OF CONFIDENCE.

It has been contended by some moralists that the community, among whom confidential correspondence, or the *secrecy of letters*, is not deemed inviolable, must be either in a state of barbarism or corruption. "A courier, bearing despatches to Phillip, fell into the hands of the Athenian general; the latter sent them to the King of Macedon without breaking the seal. Pompey, in the midst of civil discord, respected the confidence of friendship, and burned all the letters in his possesion, which might have exposed to injury those who had written them, or to whom they were addressed." Such is the example which honourable *pagans* have left. The christian civilization of our country is not yet so far advanced. Party spirit, in our political contests, breaks through all bounds of trust and decency, in the use of private letters.

If we were absolute lawgivers, we would subject to the heaviest penalties all principals and accessaries in such disclosures, and all publishers and printers of private conversations.

In Plutarch's Lives there is an account of the Lacedemonian customs, and in that account the following statement:—When they first entered the eating room, the oldest man present pointed to the door, and said—*Not a word spoken in this company goes out there.*" *Not a word* was the Spartan injunction, and ought to be the rule of modern society. Plutarch adds, that the Lacedemonians styled their repasts, *Phiditia*, perhaps from their tendency to *friendship* and *mutual benevolence*, The publication of things uttered at table would directly counteract the sense of this good title. *Mirabeau* proposed to the National Assembly of France, to enact heavy penalties for such a breach of trust and decency. We shall translate a few of his sentences. —"Ask all honourable men what they think of the promulgation of private letters or discourse; they will all shudder, because all find their own security endangered. To receive a mark of confidence, is to contract an engagement;—unless this be true, all the social ties are dissolved; for if I say to my neighbour, *I bring peace*, and he understands, or affects to understand—*I declare war against you*—if I say to him, I *commit myself to your good faith*, and he interprets this *I permit you to violate your faith*, we no longer speak the same language; we have the tower of Babel again—we had better disperse."

When persons live in any degree of intimacy or confidence, they freely give vent to feelings and opinions without deeming it necessary to call them *private or confidential*, because the relation of the parties implies that they are so, The after-test should be—"Will the public use, which I am tempted to make of what I thus heard, prove injurious to the utterer? and if so, would he not, had he apprehended the present state of things, have declared it to be confidential, or suppressed it altogether!" Whether a communication be expressly, or virtually, implicity confidential, is the same thing to a man of strict honour and integrity. It is so easy, when alienated or estranged, or fired with resentment, or stimulated by the prospect of gain, to find pretexts for promulgating sentiments thrown out in the intercourse of friendship or familar acquaintance, that very few few pleas indeed should be admitted as justificatory. We would reject even self-defence, except under circumstances the most rare and oppressive. What must be the character of the informant who could report a private conversation for the newspapers. An eaves-dropper is not to be believed, because his very act implies baseness. The more common the baseness of divulging in the newspapers, private communications, the more frequently and severely ought it to be reprobated.

As far as it regards *publication*, every private conversation should be deemed *confidential*. This we would make, and have always considered the rule of social honour and true breeding. It is *necessary* to comfort and security in private intercourse. Leave to the hearer the decision of what is *confidential* and what not so, and you put the speaker entirely in his power.

Many things stated in private discourse are, and may be, without impropriety repeated *in the same way*; yet, even thus, much wrong and mischief are done. Nothing should be publised, without express permission,—or without suppressing the manner in which it was obtained, supposing the fact to be of an innocent or useful nature.

The reporters of the conversations or sayings of the illustrious dead have frequently done wanton injury to their memories, by retailing too much, or what they and their true friends would have anxiously suppressed. The gossip of the memoirs is, in innumerable instances, either indiscreet, treacherous or redundant. So, of the private correspondence of the dead, betrayed in like manner.

The divulgation of things strictly true is often either wholly unnecessary or absolutely mischievous. Turpitude; folly; the foibles, incongruities or obliquities of those who have been capable of enlightening the world and exciting its admiration, may be *concealed*, with advantage, and be wholly destitute of value when revealed.

Every one knows that the meaning of what is uttered orally, may depend upon the general nature of the subject, or the particular occasion,—upon the mood of the parties,—upon a nod, a wink, a glance of the eye, an inflection of the voice—and therefore, that to repeat the particular phrases merely is, oftentimes, to garble and misrepresent their intended import. Few men are so much gifted in point of memory as to be able to repeat exactly or fairly what has been said in casual discourse.

Gouverneur Morris being asked an account of somethig that had been said in private discourse, he replied—"It would be indelicate in me to bring forward publicly the conversation which Mr. Jefferson held with me, for he certainly could not have intended it for the public; and whatever may have been or may be his conduct towards me or my friends, *there is, I think, a sanctity of social intercourse among gentlemen which ought not to be violated.*" Again, on another occasion—"I told you before, as I feel myself bound to tell you now, that, although the information I received was not expressly under the seal of confidence, yet it was in that sort of conversation, where, *among gentlemen*, there is so much confidence implied, that it would be indelicate to cite facts, unless, perhaps, to eulogize another after his death."

To publish or republish private letters either perfidiously communicated or surreptitiously obtained, is to give countenance, if not absolute sanction, to a sad breach of express, or implied confidence.

To send forth to the world that which has passed in friendly intercourse, written or oral, and which bore, intrinsically or by injunction, the character of privacy, is to violate good faith, to reject the general understanding between men of honour, and to impair the security and thus suppress the freedom of social converse.

The practice of publishing private matter would des-

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troy the personal respectability of the conductors of public journals, by imparting the character and repute of the worst of inquisitions to their office causing them to be regarded in the light of spies who prowl in order to purloin, or listen only to betray. Such of the profession as would retain for it any share of trust in private life, or any degree of public *esteem*, should studiously avoid the least reference,—except an intimation of disapproval and regret,—to articles the public disclosure of which implies fraud or treachery. No advantage to party objects,—no gratification of personal resentments,—no immediate triumph,—can excuse that use of them, which encourages or renders more efficacious the original impropriety.

We shall always dispute the doctrine that editors or their readers have *a right* to such matter, because it has been generally republished. The receiver may not be quite as bad as the thief, but he is ever reprehensible when he promotes the object of the latter, and increases the wrong done to the person or persons despoiled. Such, doubtless, are the effects of the further propagation of private communications improperly divulged in the first instance.—*American, writer.*

A PEEP INTO BELGIUM.

Brussels, Wednesday.

The feeling which I recently described to you as existing in this country in favour of the Prince of Orange is of course less visible in Brussels under the immediate influence of the court than anywhere else: but there are channels enough, notwithstanding, through which it is betrayed. Extraordinary as the fact may appear, it is nevertheless true, that immediately after the revolution, and even down to the present moment, the manufacturers of fancy articles, of jewellery, *bon-bons*, &c., were obliged to mark their wares with some secret device, or allusion to the Prince for the sake of procuring a ready sale for their productions. These people must be supposed to know the arts by which popularity in such matters can be best ensured, and the particular sentiment they ought to address, in order to obtain it: so that this circumstance, slight as it is, may be regarded as strong evidence of the real tendency of public opinion. But there are many trifling signs which, taken singly, may not be entitled to much consideration, but which on the whole present decisive evidence of the popular sentiments. Indeed Leopold himself is not ignorant of the sympathies of the people, and adopts all the means in his power to keep out of view those local associations that might recall the memory of the past, and excite the lurking attachment of the Belgians for the Prince into open expression. The palace of the Prince of Orange used to be thrown open to the public at certain hours of the day, and its costly furniture, its collection of articles of *vertu*, its valuable paintings, the chairs worked by the hands of the Princess, and her boudoir and toilette, just as she left them in confusion, were object of the deepest interest to the crowds who daily visited them. An order, however, has been issued by which all persons are prohited from entering the private apartments containing the personal memorials, and no parts of the building are now suffered to be seen but those which are least calculated to suggest any recollections of the House of the Orange. Even in the rooms that are exhibited, where there is little else to gratify the curiosity beyond pictures and slabs of marble, you are not permitted to remain long enough to examine the treasures of the place; your conductor hurries you forward from room to room, so that you have scarcely time to look round, and, as if it were intended to prevent the possibility of seeing those things which you have expressly come to see, the blinds of the windows are kept down, for the purpose, I presume, of weakening as much as possible the impression of the scene. All this is done with a view to reduce the enthusiasm which the sight of the Prince's residence would create and heighten; and no means are left untried to plunge his name into oblivion. Nobody can blame Leopold for this policy—but its object can neither be denied nor concealed.

It may appear surprising that the popular feeling should not have found a vent in this country, and that those sentiments which are well known here to prevail amongst the people should never, even by accident, have been published to the rest of Europe. But it ought not to be forgotten that the press of Belgium, nominally free, is actually fettered: that it never ventures upon the utterance of political observations: that it exists entirely upon the sufferance of the priests and the government: and that it is made up wholly of condensed extracts from foreign journals, brief articles of local news, and, perhaps, now and then a scrap of bald literary, musical, or theatrical criticism. The *Courier Belge* is the most important paper in the kingdom—but it is a sheet of mere paragraphs. It has no soul of its own, and, if it had, it would be obliged to get another body to hold it. I am persuaded that an English newspaper would succeed in Brussels. The want of an English newspaper is universally felt not only here, where there are a great number of resident English, but all over the continent. The only resource in this way is *Galignani's Messenger*, but that farthing journal is quite inadequate to the demands of its readers: and poor and meagre as it is, produces a clear profit of six or seven thousands per annum. To be sure an English journal would be deprived of much of its utility by the restraints under which it would be placed; but it might accomplish a great improvement upon the existing press, and help to make the wants and wishes of the Belgian people better known to their neighbours, without incurring any very serious risk at the hands of a government which, whatever, may be its private policy, is ostensibly pledged to the support of liberal institutions. The experiment was tried in Brussels some time ago, but after two or three numbers it failed in consequence chiefly, I believe, of the small amount of ability and experience that was brought to its production. The English in Brussels frequent the news-room in the place Royale, where they find the English papers, and of course they could not be induced to patronize a journal which was inadequate to supply the information they required, when they could so easily obtain it for a trifling subscription to the library. But if a journal written with vigour and a knowledge of the country here as well as of England, were produced, I have no doubt that it would not only effect a great national benefit, but be rewarded by a very extensive sale in France, Germany, and Holland, as well as in Belgium. We know the effect that was produced by in English newspaper in Constantinople, and may fairly predicate still more extensive results from a similar undertaking here.

There is so little show of state here, that if it were not for the occasional appearance of the Queen's carriage which is at this moment passing the windows of my hotel the glancing backwards and forwards of a few private cabriolets towards the park and the boulevards, and a certain air of quietness and dignity that prevades this quarter of the town, one could hardly be persuaded that they were in the capital of the country, But it is only in this quarter that Brussels has the tone of a capital. When you pass down the Montagne de la Cour, and the Rue Madelaine, and find yourself buried in the depths of the old town, in the midst, perhaps, of a group of market-baskets, or hemmed in between a lumbering diligence that disputes the pavement with you, and some dingy fountain that is perpetually spouting out water upon the stones, you lose all sense of the elegance of the place, and may be excused if you fancy yourself in one of the remote avenues of Liege or Ostend. The courtly part of Brussels, as all the world knows, exhibits most a marked contrast with the remainder; but then the courtly part is superb. The poor young Queen wears an aspect of stillness that amounts almost to an expression of sorrow, and as she passed I thought she looked up to the windows of this hotel, celebrated in the revolution for the siege of missiles and shot which it stood from the enraged populace. The proprietor of the Belle Vue, indeed, makes the most of that important event in the history of his house. He has an engraving of the scene hung up in the passage to the *salle à manger*: but it does not tell half the family story. The father of the present *maître d'hotel*, an old man, was so terrified by the perils of that fearful rising that he died of excessive fright. They circulate sad tales here about the domestic life of the Queen—but it is right to draw a veil over feelings that ought to be sacred from the rude inquisition of the world.

Ghent, Thursday.

The farther you remove from Brussels the more clearly do you arrive at a just estimate of the general feeling of the country. In the manufacturing towns the popular attachment to the Prince of Orange is less diguised than in the capital and the frontiers. The injury that the revolution has inflicted upon trade and commerce is more deeply felt at Ghent and Liege than any where else; and here it is that we see in full operation the working of that sentiment which may, one day or another, produce extraordinary changes in Belgium. Ghent is a regular camp of belligerent opinions. The Orange party is very strong here, and do not hesitate to avow themselves on all available occasions. When any national air is demanded by the populace in the theatre, the Orangeists rise *en masse* to prohibit it. The officers of the garrison, who are, of course, in favour of the existing government, than take part in the dissension and the usual termination is a series of duels the next morning. Only a few nights ago, when a broil of this description occurred, the Orange party—which is composed of the most influential and respectable section of the townspeople—left the theatre, and were immediately followed by the members of the orchestra, so that the vociferous *canaille* found themselves in possession of the house with full permission to call for any tunes they pleased, which, however there were no musicians to play. Party spirit runs so high here, and is so little checked by any considerations of respect for the authorities or the public peace, that a stranger would be justified in believing that it must eventuate in some serious burst of insubordination. The people of Ghent have not yet established a garde nationale in the town, nor do they seem at all disposed to organize such a force. In the Place d'Armes there are two clubhouses, as we would call them, similar to Brookes' and White's in St. Jame's-street, supported by the opposing factions, and here the revolutionists and the Orangeists hold their revels and their counter-conspiracies. Sometimes personal broils take place, and, so far as I can learn, the Orangeists generally vanquish their antagonists.

But it is not very difficult to account for the existence of these feelings in a town which has suffered so much for the sake of a change which it had no share in producing. A variety of circumstances concur to render the people of Ghent discontented with the present order of things. The splendid university which their city contains, and which was built under the auspices of the King of Holland, is a permanent memorial of the desertion of the royal patronage which shey have experienced. In the gorgeous hall of the university—one of the most magnificent chambers of its class, perhaps, in the would—the throne which was erected for the King, who used to preside at the examination of the pupils and the distribution of the prizes, is now empty. The King never comes to Ghent, and the educational anniversary has lost one of its most gratifying and imposing features. Good reason, too, has Leopold for avoiding Ghent. He wisely keeps aloof from a place where he knows that his government is unpopular. But unfortunately his avoidance is too marked to escape the animadversions of the inhabitants. He and the Queen spend a month every year at Ostend during the bathing season, and although their direct route from Brussels lies through the town, they make a *detour* by Oudenarde in order to escape the experiment of meeting the good burghers of this ancient place. Nor is this all. Their journey to Ostend is accompanied by other circumstances which have the effect of recalling, in a very humiliating way, the memory of that connexion with Holland which, while it lasted, was fruitful of benefits to Ghent. Agreeably to usage the Queen's pleasure yatch is always guarded by a frigate of war, and when her Majesty proceeds to Ostend it is necessary to transport a frigate with the yatch from Antwerp. Now the proper course would be to sail direct out of the Scheldt, and so round the coast to Ostend; but as the mouth of the Scheldt is under the fire of the Dutch guns, and as the Belgian flag is not permitted to have ingress or egress there, the authorities are obliged to drag the frigate through the canal across the country the whole way to Ostend. The spectacle of a frigate of war, with her decks covered with naval officers, and her guns manned by the best sailors in the country, drawn by horses through a canal which one would suppose too narrow and shallow to admit such a vessel, is at least as ludicrous as it is degrading. No wonder that the people of Ghent, seeing those things, and feeling that they have lost so much by their separation from a kingdom which exercises so complete an authority over their destinies, should regard the new government with distrust and dissatisfaction. The result of my observations on this subject may be summed up in a line. The mass of the wealthy inhabitants of Belgium are anxious for a change, and if a change should be forced on the country, it is not improbable that the nucleus of the movement may be detected in Ghent.—*Atlas, Oct.* 2.

MR. MIDSHIPMAN EASY.

"As there was no time to lose, our hero very soon bade adieu to his paternal roof, as the phrase is, and found his way down to Portsmouth. As Jack had plenty of money, and was very much pleased at finding himself his own master, he was in no hurry to join his ship, and five or six companions not very creditable, whom either Jack had picked up, or had picked up Jack, and who lived upon him, strongly advised him to put it off until the very last moment. As this advice happened to coincide with Jack's opinion, our hero was three weeks at Portsmouth before any one knew of his arrival, but at last Captain Wilson received a letter from Mr. Easy, by which he found that Jack had left home at the period we have mentioned, and he desired the first lieutenant to make inquiries, as he was afraid that some accident might have happened to him. As Mr. Sawbridge, the first lieutenant happened to be going on shore on the same evening for the last time previous to the ship's sailing, he looked into the Blue Posts, George and Fountain Inns, to inquire if there was such a person arrived as Mr. Easy. 'O yes,' replied the waiter at the Fountain,—'Mr Easy has been here these three weeks.'

"'The devil be has, roard,' Mr. Sawbridge, with all the indignation of a first lieutenant defrauded three weeks of a midshipman; 'where is he; in the coffee-room?'

"'Oh dear no, sir,' replied the waiter, 'Mr. Easy has the front apartments on the first floor.'

"'Well, then, show me up to the first floor.'

"'May I request the pleasure of your name, sir?' said the waiter.

"'First lieutenants don't send up their names to midshipmen,' replied Mr. Sawbridge; 'he shall soon know who I am.'

"At the reply the waiter walked up stairs followed by Mr. Sawbridge, and threw open the door.

"'A gentleman wishes to see you, sir,' said the waiter.

"'Desire him to walk in,' said Jack; 'and. waiter, mind that the punch is a little better than it was yesterday; I have asked two more gentlemen to dine here.'

"In the meantime Mr. Sawbridge, who was not in his uniform, had entered, and perceived Jack alone with the dinner table laid out in the best style for eight, a considerable show of plate for even the Fountain Inn, and every thing, as well as the apartment itself, according to Mr. Sawbridge's opinion, much more fit for a commander-in-chief than a midshipman of a sloop of war.

"Now Mr. Sawbridge was a good officer, one who had really worked his way up to the present rank, that is to say, he had served seven-and-twenty years, and had nothing but his pay. He was a little soured in the service, and certainly had an aversion to the young men of family who were now fast crowding into it—and with some grounds, as he perceived his own chance of promotion decrease in the same ratio as the numbers increased. He considered that in proportion as midshipmen assumed a cleaner and more gentlemanly appearance, so did they become more useless, and it may therefore be easily imagined that his bile was raised by this parade and display in a lad, who was very shortly to be, and ought three weeks before to have been, shrinking from his frown. Nevertheless, Sawbridge was a good-hearted man, although a little envious of luxury, which he could not pretend to indulge in himself.

"'May I beg to ask, said Jack, who was always remarkably polite and gentlemanly in his address,' in what manner I may be of service to you?'

"'Yes, sir, you may—by joining your ship immediately. And may I beg to ask in return, sir, what is the reason you have staid on shore three weeks without joining her?'

"Hereupon Jack, who did not much admire the peremptory tone of Mr. Sawbridge, and who during the answer had taken a seat, crossed his legs, and played with the gold chain to which his watch was secured, after a pause very coolly replied,

"'And pray, who are you?'

"'Who am I, sir, replied Sawbridge, jumping out of his chair—'my name is Sawbridge, sir, and I am the first lieutenant of the Harpy. Now, sir, you have your answer.'

"Mr. Sawbridge, who imagined that the name of the first lieutenant would strike terror to a culprit midshipman, threw himself back in the chair, and assumed an air of importance.

"'Really, sir,' replied Jack, 'what may be your exact situation on board, my ignorance of the service will not allow me to guess, but if I may judge from your behaviour, you have no small opinion of yourself.'

"'Look ye, young man, you may not know what a first lieutenant is, and I take it for granted that you do not, by your behaviour; but depend upon it, I'll let you know very soon. In the mean time, sir, I insist upon it, that you go immediately on board.'

"'I'm sorry that I cannot comply with your very moderate request,' replied Jack, coolly. 'I shall go on board when it suits my convenience, and I beg that you will give yourself no further trouble on my account.'

"Jack then rang the bell; the waiter, who had been listening outside, immediately entered, and before Mr. Sawbridge, who was dumb with astonishment at Jack's impertinence, could have time to reply.

"'Waiter,' said Jack, 'show this gentleman down stairs.'

"'By the god of war!' exclaimed the first lieutenant, 'but I'll soon show you down to the boat, my young bantam; and when once I get you safe on board, I'll make you know the difference between a midshipman and a first lieutenant.'

"'I can only admit of *equality*, sir,' replied Jack; 'we are all born equal, I trust you'll allow that.'

"'Equality—damn it I suppose you'll take the command of the ship. However, sir, your ignorance will be a little enightened by-and-bye. I shall now go and report your conduct to Captain Wilson; and I tell you plainly, that if you are not on board this evening, to-morrow morning, at daylight, I shall send a sergeant and a file of marines, to fetch you.'

"'You may depend upon it, sir,' replied Jack, 'that I also shall not fail to mention to Captain Wilson, that I consider you a very quarrelsome, impertinent fellow, and recommend him not to allow you to remain on board. It will be quite uncomfortable to be in the same ship with such an ungentlemanly bear.

"'He must be mad—quite mad,' exclaimed Sawbridge, whose astonishment even mastered his indignation, 'Mad as a March hare—by God.'

"'No, sir, replied Jack, 'I am not mad, but I am a philosopher.'

"'*What?*' exclaimed Sawbridge, 'damme, what next?—well, my joker, all the better for you, I shall put your philosophy to the proof.'

"'It is for that very reason, sir,' replied jack, 'that I have decided upon going to sea; and if you do remain on board, I hope to argue the point with you, and make you a convert to the truth of equality and the rights of man.'

"'By the Lord that made us both, I'll soon make you a convert to the thirty-six articles of war—that is, if you remain on board; but I shall now go to the captain, and report your conduct, sir, and leave you to your dinner with what appetite you may.'

"'Sir, I am infinitely obliged to you; but you need not be afraid of my appetite; I am only sorry, as you happen to belong to the same ship, that I cannot, in justice to the gentlemanly young men whom I expect, ask you to join them. I wish you a very good morning, sir.'

"'Twenty years have I been in the service,' roared Sawbridge, 'and damme,———but he's mad—down right, stark, staring mad.' And the first lieutenant bounced out of the room.

"Jack was a little astonished himself. Had Mr. Sawbridge made his appearance in uniform it might have been different, but that a plain-looking man, with black whiskers, shaggy hair, and old blue frock coat, and yellow casimere waistcoat, should venture to address him in such a manner, was quite incomprehensible;—he calls me mad, thought Jack, I shall tell Captain Wilson what is my opinion about his lieutenant. Shortly afterwards the company arrived, and Jack soon forgot all about it."—*Bell's Weekly Messenger, September* 11.

ON IMPROVING FIRE-ARMS FOR THE KING'S SERVICE,

(From the Courier, October 15,)

LIFTTER FROM LIUTENANT COLONEL P. HAWKER TO COLONEL BROTHERTON.

My dear Brotherton,—I feel proud that you have thought me worth consulting in any thing for the good of the service, and I have therefore well considered the subject on which you spoke to me the other day—improvement in the fire-arms of the British army. To the point then, as I hate superfluous prosing, I will begin with the old.

Flint.—We all know that a flint-gun will shoot rather stronger, and further than a detonator; and that it will recoil less. But these are no advantages in *ball* shooting, because a ball will always go further than we can command precision of aim; and the recoil from a ball is scarcely more that that from a blank cartrige. The flint, I admit, affords a simple means of loading, in which even an awkward recruit can scarcely make a mistake; but then, on the other hand, if there comes a wet day, or you have only to pile arms on a damp night, you have nothing but your bayonet to depend on when you meet your enemy. Under these considerations, therefore, I must at once turn to the *detonator*, and I will begin with the

Copper Cap.—Although I have every reason to believe that I was the inventor of this universal mode of firing detonating guns, yet I have my doubts as to its efficacy for his Majesty's servise—1st. Because the copper cap cannot be *well* applied without a new solid breeching (which would be too expensive an alteration to suite the economy of the service); 2d. Because a copper cap, *even if well* completed, requires a *fine* powder that will corrode with either damp, or rough usage and neglect; and 3d. Because, if a copper cap is applied by means of brazing on a piece to the old musket (*as I hear is now being done*), it will for ever be liable to miss fire, in consequence of the long communication. I will, therefore, now come to what I conceive the only mode of detonating ignition that will never fail, and that is the

Copper Prime.—With this you have only to screw in a projecting touch-hole; soften the lock plate; and, instead of the hammer and spring, braze (or screw) on the piece of iron that conducts the primer to the touch-hole; and then you may use powder that will stand all weather, and may bring in Captain Norton's cartridges as the very best plan that can be adopted. (I say this without having seen these cartridges, and without the honour of knowing Captain Norton, because only six weeks ago I had thought of nearly the same thing, and proved it to answer.) The only question, however, is the *expense* of the *primers*, because as they, for *safety's* sake, must be *drilled from solid copper*—they cannot be made at the cheap rate of copper caps. The whole query for the service, therefore, rests between utility and economy, as the one, to a trifling extent, is imcompatible with the other.

Here you have my opinion as an old sportsman and coast punt-gunner, *in all weathers*; an old soldier; and an amateur gun-maker; and I am ready to support it with any one, from a Field Marshall down to a shore-popper, or journeyman lock-filer.

Most truly your's, P. HAWKER.

P. S. I forgot to speak about the stocks. If strength, and consequent cheapness, require them to be so strait that I defy a man to shoot well with them, put some elevation (similar to that on a rifle) instead of obliging the soldier to incline his head over beyond the true line of aim.

N. B. You are fully at liberty to show this letter at the Horse Gaurds, or wherever you think proper.

To Colonel Brotherton, &c. &c.

MISCELLANEA.

Bulls.—It may not be amiss to state, what I heard then as a fact, that, when Miss Edgeworth's "Essay on Irish Bulls" appeared, the Farming Society of Ireland ordered twenty copies!—*Hills Recollections.*

A court-martial upon an officer of the Drivers was the means of bringing me acquainted with Major Stoddart, of the Enniskillen Dragoons. I was lamenting to him the very slow progress of the new theatre then building, and we were talking about the favourite actors of London: this reminded him of the following adventure.

Some years previously, he was returning to his regiment from a long sick leave of absence, and had stopped at Dartford as his first stage, Canterbury being his ultimate destination. He was alone, had ordered dinner, and was awaiting its appearance in the coffee-room, when a dashing tandem stopped at the inn-door. It was driven by a tall man, very showily dressed, sporting a variety of strongly-contrasted silk waistcoats, numerous gold chains, brooches, &c., adorning his neck and breast; a huge pair of carroty whiskers kept pace with moustaches of the same colour; a very richly-braided blue coat surmounted a pair of grey military overalls; the servant of the newlyarrived "illustrious stranger" was attired in a gaudy livery, with a cockade in his hat. The master descended from his vehicle, and John drove the carriage into the yard.

Stoddart did not relish the idea of sitting down to a solitary meal, and thought it would be as well to ascertain who the gentleman was, and if he also was about to dine alone. The waiter was directed to make inquiry; he speedily returned, announcing that the servant had informed him "his master was Major Bradbury, of the Enniskillens."

"Bradbury!" exclaimed Stoddart. "Have you an army list? No! I'm sorry for it. He must have been appointed during my long absence from my corps," thought the major; "but, I will not lose the opportunity of making his acquaintance."

At this moment the stranger entered with a consequential swagger. Stoddart, advancing towards him, said:

"I was about to dine alone, sir; will you take compassion on an invalid, and join his meal?"

Major Bradbury accepted the invitation in terms which convinced Stoddart, that his newly-made acquaintance was not a man of the highest polish; but he consoled himshelf by thinking, "He is a character, perhaps, or may be a man who has risen by his merit from the ranks. Shall I at once make myself known to him as an officer in the same regiment with himself, or see somewhat more of him?" He determined on the latter. When the soup was removed, Stoddart asked, "Shall I have the pleasure of a glass of wine with you, sir?" "No, thank you," answered his friend; "I prefers the malt, 'specially when one gets it homebrewed; in Lunnon, you know, they puts such a lot of doctor's-stuff in the beer, it always gives me the collywhabbles."

"A complaint I never before heard of," coolly replied the astonished Stoddart. "Let me send you some fish."

"If you please," said he of the waistcoats: "but I say, I don't see none of the parryphenayly. Here, my cove!" turning to the waiter' "where's the 'chovy, and all them sort of fakements? Fish isn't worth a tinker's damn without the reg'lar slums."

The invalid was on thorns: he hardly dared address this extraodinary person in the presence of the waiter, for fear of extorting some reply that would add to his mortification. Dinner passed.

"I must plead the excuse of being under a regimen, and content myself with a glass or two of Madeira; but do not let that deter you from taking your wine—which shall I order?"

Why, I think a bottle of red port won't hurt a fellow who has to drive back to Lunnon to-night in a open chay."

"Then, you are not going to Canterbury?"

"What put that in your noddle? I never mean to go there again; why, the last time I was with old Mother Baker, I only got five skreens a darky, and that's no go!"

All this was perfectly unintelligible to Stoddart; he became every moment more and more disgusted with his companion, and, anxious to ascertain if he was really attached to his own corps, he gravely said:

"Before I explain to you the reason why I took the liberty of asking you to dine with me, allow me to inform you that my name is Stoddart, and that I am a major in the Enniskillen Dragoons; the waiter gave me to understand that you were Major Bradury, of the Enniskillens. May I ask, is it to the 27th regiment of infantry, or mine, you are attached?"

"Lord bless your dear heart! I 'm not a major. I Bradbury, the clown of the Circus; 'tis all the fault of a son of a——of a slavey, he always gives me some gra name. when I comes out a pleasuring, 'cause you see gets one more respect, though one pays for it most cussly when the snipe's brought in."

"Bradbury, the Immense," ordered his tandem, too very respectful leave of his host, whose irritated feeli soon became composed, on finding that his vulgar ass ate did not belong to the Enniskillens, horse or foot *Hill's Recollections.*

Beyrout July 30.—The inhabitants of Damascus tely witnessed a commercial movement unparalleled ing many years. 1,000 camels arrived in that city, la with goods of European manufacture, but particu British articless. This expedition has been most advageous to the establishments of Beyrout.—*Moniteur.*

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